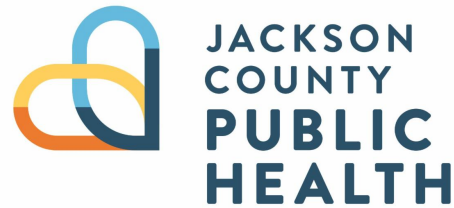


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Wednesday, August 28, 2024
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Jackson County Public Health Offers Free Narcan at Local Grocery Stores in Pop-Up Events

Visitors encouraged to pick up overdose prevention resources and information as they prepare for Labor Day weekend

Lee's Summit, MO — In honor of International Overdose Awareness Day, **Jackson County Public Health (JCPH) is partnering with local Hy-Vee stores to offer free opioid overdose prevention resources in Raytown and Lee's Summit.**

This week, JCPH will host a pop-up resource table from **9 AM to 1 PM** at the following **Hy-Vee** locations:

- **Thursday (8/29)** — 9400 E Highway 350, Raytown
- **Friday (8/30)** — 301 NE Rice Rd, Lee's Summit
- **Saturday (8/31)** — 9400 E Highway 350, Raytown

Visitors can pick up free Narcan along with other resources, like CPR face shields, fentanyl test strips, and overdose prevention wallet cards.

No store purchase is required – anyone can stop by the table. JCPH staff will be available on-site to teach visitors how to identify an opioid overdose and correctly administer Narcan.

Observed on August 31 every year, International Overdose Awareness Day seeks to raise public understanding of overdose, reduce the stigma of drug-related deaths, and create change that reduces the harms associated with drug use. One key tool in combating opioid overdose deaths is Narcan (naloxone), a safe and easy-to-use nasal spray medication.

“Narcan is extremely effective at reversing an opioid overdose in an emergency,” said Reagan Williams, Program and Policy Specialist at Jackson County Public Health. “Our goal is to increase awareness about this life-saving resource and provide accurate information about Narcan’s importance.”

In Eastern Jackson County, 179 residents died as a result of opioid overdoses from 2017 to 2022, and the rate of fatal opioid overdose nearly doubled in that time span.

“We all have a role to play in ending the opioid crisis,” said Seth Middleton, Program

Coordinator at JCPH. “By learning how and when to use Narcan, everyone can be prepared to save a life and contribute to reducing the impact of this devastating issue.”

Free Narcan is available year-round at Jackson County Public Health’s office, located at 3651 NE Ralph Powell Road in Lee’s Summit. Additionally, JCPH staff can provide training and education to community groups free of charge.

To learn more about Narcan and opioid overdose prevention in Eastern Jackson County, visit jcph.org/opioids.

For questions about this event or JCPH’s overdose prevention resources, including media requests, please contact Seth Middleton at (816) 404-6557 or Seth.Middleton@uhkc.org.



**JACKSON COUNTY
PUBLIC HEALTH**

About Jackson County Public Health:

We offer services, provide programs, and advocate for policies so that all people have a fair and just opportunity to be healthy. Learn more at www.jcph.org.

Jackson County Public Health | 3651 NE Ralph Powell Rd | Lee's Summit, MO 64064 US

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